

City of Burlington COVID-19 Update

Burlington COVID-19 Resource and Recovery Center (RRC)

April 2021

(Insert Name of Language)

Highlights:

- o New vaccine eligibility for Black, Indigenous and people of color in Vermont
- o COVID-19 Relief Bill & What it Means
- New COVID-19 Case Growth
- State Announcements
- Where to Find COVID-19 Information
- How to register for a vaccine

Vaccine Eligibility Opens for ALL Vermont Residents who are Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Color



On March 30, the State announced it would change vaccine eligibility. If you or anyone in your household identifies as Black, Indigenous, or a person of color (BIPOC), all household members who are 16 years or older can also sign up to get a vaccine. People can sign up online, by calling the Health Department, signing up through a participating pharmacy or making an appointment at a BIPOC household focused clinic.

Registration Options and Language Support:

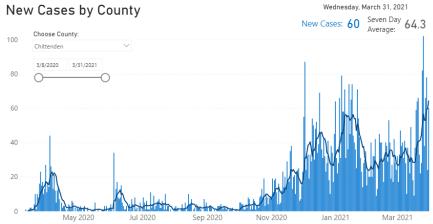
- 1. Register with the Vermont Department of Health online at https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine (online registration in English) or by calling the vaccine hotline at 855-722-7878 (For assistance in other languages press 1). Call Center Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m. 5:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. Please indicate your preferred language so they can schedule an interpreter to be available during your appointment, as well as provide translated forms.
- 2. If you have eligibility questions or need registration assistance in another language, you can contact your case manager at the Association of Africans or the Refugee Program. If you do not have a case manager, call the Refugee Program at 802-655-1963 or the Association of Africans at 802-355-0795 and you will be connected with someone who speaks your language. They are hosting a clinic with interpreters on-site and additional language support.
- 3. An additional BIPOC-focused clinic is available in Burlington, through the collaboration of organizations such as the Vermont Racial Justice Alliance, Vermont Professionals of Color Network, Vermont LEND Program and the City of Burlington. You may call 802-755-7239 to be added to the waitlist, phone interpreter services are provided if you indicate a preferred language. If you leave a voicemail, please leave your name and preferred language and someone will get back to you. An online registration form is also available in English. Visit https://bitly.com/BIPOC-Clinics. Please indicate your preferred language so they can schedule an interpreter to be available for your appointment and provide translated forms.

COVID-19 Financial Relief Bill



A new financial relief bill called the American Rescue Plan was passed by U.S. Congress in early March, which will provide \$1.9 trillion in financial relief to people across the U.S. over the coming year. The bill boosts funding for nutrition and wellfare programs (such as State food assistance or childcare programs), extends unemployment payments, provides tax benefits, creates financial support for small businesses, and gives families with kids and childless workers an emergency financial boost. This bill also lowers health insurance costs for lower- and middle-income families, and funds future rental and utility bill assistance programs. While some benefits are more immediate, some may take some time to get set up, expect to see financial relief opportunities continue to open.

New Case Growth



The City continues to monitor the presence of COVID-19 in the community. Recent reports show that there is increased cases in our area, as of the end of March. The picture above shows the rising cases of COVID-19 in Chittenden County. We are noticing that the rise in cases is now becoming more common in younger generations, the average age of a person who tests positive is now below age 30. COVID-19 cases related to older community members are going down as many are taking advantage of vaccinations. This information is not cause for panic, but it is an alert for the community to use extra caution.

What you can do: Given the current level of COVID-19 cases in the City, please continue to wear a mask, follow the State's guidance around gathering with people outside your household, and consider the free testing (which is a simple, self-administered swab of your nose, not the earlier test that went far back in your nose) available at 405 Pine Street in Burlington every day between 10:00am-6:00pm. Getting a vaccine can also greatly reduce the transmission of the virus within the community.

State Announcements

Over the past month, the State has made a variety of important announcements:

Gatherings

For unvaccinated individuals or households, social gatherings indoors and outdoors are limited to TWO unvaccinated households or individuals at a time, PLUS any fully vaccinated households. Fully vaccinated is defined as every person in the household has completed all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Age Band Eligibility

The State has announced future age band eligibility, with all Vermonters age 16 and older being eligible by end of April.

Age 40+ - Open for registration now

Age 30+ - Opens April 12 Age 16+ - Opens April 19

To see State guidance in English, visit:

https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-be-smart-stay-safe-order

Where to Find COVID-19 Information

The Vermont Department of Health now has individual language pages with COVID-19 health information:

Arabic: https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/resources/multilingual-resources#French
Kirundi: https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/resources/multilingual-resources#Kirundi
Nepali: https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/resources/multilingual-resources#Somali
Swahili: https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/resources/multilingual-resources#Swahili

Vietnamese: https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/resources/multilingual-resources#Vietnamese

The Vermont Multilingual Task Force continues to release videos with important updates in addition. Video playlists by language are available:

Visit their web page: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3zjPpeFnXqvESr1y3d4DvQ/playlists

Questions? Need Assistance?

Burlington's **COVID-19 Resource and Recovery Center (RRC)** is here to help, contact us at 802-755-7239 or <u>recovery@burlingtonvt.gov</u> and leave a message with your name, preferred language, and contact information and we will assist you as soon as possible. Our call center has phone interpretation services available. Our operation hours are Monday to Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm.

Find Translations:

Vermont Department of Health

https://www.healthvermont.gov/media/translation/covid-19-translations

City of Burlington

https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/covid-19/translated

Vermont Multilingual Task Force:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3zjPpeFnXqvESr1y3d4DvQ

The information in this document is subject to change as guidelines are updated on a national and state level